MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): If it can be transported for 4 as. by sea may I know why merchants transport by land routes at a cost of 8 as?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Government have nothing to do with that. That is for the merchants to look into.

Laying of water pipes along the Brigade Lane Road, Kunnukuzhi.

349. * MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the time taken to lay the water pipes along the Brigade Lane Road, Kunnukuzhi;

(*b*) the date on which the above work was started; and

(*c*) the number of water taps erected in the lane and the time taken to put them up?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) One month and eleven days for laying the water pipes and a further period of one month and thirteen days for testing, backfilling and restoring the road.

(*b*) 9-4-1111.

(*c*) Three. Of these two are in service now. The erection of fountains was taken up in 4/12 and completed in 5/12 except for the platform of one of them.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): May I know the expenditure incurred for this work?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

Improved Main Central Road.

350 * MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they contemplate having an improved main central road from Cape Comorin to Ernakulam *via* Quilon and Mavelikara, and paving the same with cement concrete?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): No.

Smuggling on the Northern Frontier.

351 * MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the present condition of the Illikkotta reserve on the northern frontier;

(*b*) how far it serves as a barrier against smugglers; and

(*c*) whether there is any proposal to protect the northern frontier with barbed wire fencing, to check smuggling?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) The bamboos in the Illikkotta reserve flowered and perished in 1102. Though attempts have been made to replant the area with fresh bamboo plants, they do not thrive.

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[Mr. C. O. Madhavan].

(*b*) Now it does not serve as an effective barrier against smugglers.

(*c*) The proposal is under consideration.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): May I know the amount spent for re-planting bamboo in the Illikkotta Reserve on the northern frontier, in the year 1102?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The Illikkotta or bamboo fortress, as it is called flowered in 1102; and thereafter there is no fortress there. Since then, Government have been trying to replant and spend some money for the purpose. Watchers were engaged, but not solely for replanting bamboos; they had to guard the frontier and also to replant bamboos.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know whether the Government tried to plant as they did in the eastern frontier?

MR. C O. NADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): That was not attempted.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether bamboo fencing is an effective barrier against smugglers?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): It was an effective barrier when it was in existence.

Piece-work schedule of the Government Press.

352. ✻ **MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the Piece-work Schedule of the Government Press current when Government order R. Dis. No. 1130 of 25 Judicial, dated 6th/9th May 1925 was given; and

(2) will they be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any alterations have been made in it since then;

(*b*) what those alterations, if any, are and

(*c*) whether, when, and by what order those alterations were sanctioned by Government?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) A copy of the Piece-work Schedule brought up to-date is placed on the Secretary's table;

(2) (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) and (*c*). The member is referred to the Schedule.

Particulars re: the piece-work done by employees of the Government Press.

353. ✻ **MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing for each of the months of Karkatakam 1111 and Chingam and Kanni 1112:

(*a*) the number of lines set up by the piece-workers;

(*b*) the number of hours of authors' correction done by them;

(*c*) the number of formes imposed by them;

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